

It happens every week

This time (yawn) Pre sets 5,000 mark

Really now, do the rest of America's distance runners need to show up in June for the Olympic Trials? Heck, give him days off for rest between events and Oregon's Steve Prefontaine would be all Bill Bowerman needed at Munich.

Saturday the incomparable Pre clicked off a 13:29.8 in the 5,000 meters—a new American and national collegiate record. It came a week after that 3:56.7 mile in the Twilight Meet—and brought the junior running star's list of fastest national times to four.

He owns the best time in the nation in the 5,000, six-mile, three-mile, and mile.

And while he coasted along (62-65-64-65-67-66-65-66-66-67-67-64) he bettered the national best in the three-mile with 13:04.0.

That 62-flat opening quarter left Phil Burkewist and Mark Hiefield of Washington State (oh yeah, the Ducks won a dual meet from the Cougars 99-63, too) way out of sight.

And Kenny Moore of marathon fame, running for the workout, waved goodbye shortly thereafter.

"I thought about just going out there and going

through the motions to qualify," said Pre, "but after a 4:16 mile I hated to slow down too much."

Nobody would have blamed him if he had stepped off the gas just a bit—Hayward Field was cold and windy Saturday.

But it didn't mean much to Prefontaine, or weight men Mac Wilkins and Pete Shmock, either.

Mac bettered his school record in the discus with a 190-10 toss and Shmock, who was named the Emerald Senior athlete of the year earlier in the day, heaved a lifetime best 65-1½.

The Emerald award goes each year to the Duck who shows academic, civic and athletic excellence throughout the school year.

Shmock had thrown 64-11½ in last week's Twilight Meet. "This one was much better," he said. "Last week it was all psych."

Also:

●In the hurdles, Ivory Harris came up with 13.8 and easy victory. It tied his lifetime best and equalled the school record, which was set in 1960 by Dave Edstrom.

●Dave Rorem of WSU nipped Al Hearvey by an eyelash in the 100 meters—Rorem getting the win after both were timed in wind-aided 10.3s. The Cougar sprint ace had an easier time in the 200 meters, beating Al by three-tenths of a second, with a 21.1.

●Little Vince Buford knocked off Weldon Vance in the 400 meters, Buford clocking 47.7.

●With Steve Bence taking a week off, Wes Smylie had the 800 meters all to himself. Smylie won with 1:51.3 to beat WSU's Mike Reed.

●The Ducks went 1-2 in the 1,500 meters, Mike McClendon won it in 3:46.5, and Mark Feig chased him home with a 3:48.9.

●Marty Hill and Bouncy Moore were two notables who missed the meet with injuries, but Ross Blackman won the long jump with a 24-8¾ wind-aided leap.

Without Hill in the high jump, the Ducks got a third from Phil Singleton, who went 6-6.

WSU's Bob Niehl won with a jump of 6-8, and teammate John Liddle got second. It was the only event of the day where the Cougars went 1-2.



You're right—that's AAU marathon champion Kenny Moore chasing Steve Prefontaine around Stevenson track. Moore (with the beard and dark jersey) got dizzy last week tailing little Gerry Lindgren in the Twilight Meet; Saturday he stayed with Pre through a sizzling 62-flat first quarter in the 5,000 meters before falling off. Oh yes, Pre roared off to a 13:29.8, a new American and national collegiate record.

Photo by James Link

Frosh wrestler has near-upset

Unheralded Oregon freshman Wes Hines nearly pulled off a stunner in the U.S. Wrestling Federation Greco-Roman Championships at Mac Court Saturday.

Hines had two-time national champion Willie Williams of the Chicago-based Mayor Daley team fighting for his life in the 198-pound consolation match before losing 4-1.

Friday the Duck wrestler lost a close 3-1 match to eventual champion Wayne Baughman, of the Air Force.

A heavyweight who sat out this past collegiate season, Bob Strobel won the unlimited title in the open division. Strobel may come back to wrestle for the Ducks next year.

Ron Finley's Ducks ended up third in the two-day tournament. Mayor Daley Youth Foundation won its second straight title with 83 points, Armed Forces combined was second with 53, and Oregon had 31.

Weir sets record

Oregon's Mark Weir broke a school record Saturday when he won his 15th singles match of the season for Buzz Summer's tennis team. Weir ran his victory total to 15 eclipsing by one the previous mark of 14 held by Larry Brooks and Chuck Deardorff. Brooks set his record in 1962, Deardorff had 14 wins in 1966.

Meanwhile, the Ducks lost their own Oregon Team Tennis Championships to Oregon State over the weekend.

The Beavers beat the Ducks 6-3 to clinch the title. OSU had 21 points to 16 for the Ducks, nine for Seattle University and eight for Washington St.

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Ducks sweep Huskies Look out, Cougars

Surging Oregon pounded out 19 hits to blitz Washington 17-6 and 5-0 Saturday and complete a three-game sweep—something the Ducks had to have to stay in Pac-8 contention.

Friday Al Hardin did his usual thing—got Mel Krause's charges off to a winging start with a 4-0 shutout.

The three victories left Oregon one game off the Northern Division pace, behind Washington State. The Ducks are 9-3, WSU is 10-2—and this weekend they'll settle things when the Cougars come to Howe Field.

Meanwhile Oregon travels to Portland State today, then hosts the Vikings at 3 Tuesday before playing an exhibition game with the triple-A Emeralds in Civic Stadium Wednesday night at 7:30. On the season, the Ducks are 16-11.

"I thought this was our best series of the year," said Krause after Saturday's doubleheader.

And he was right.

Claydon gets shutout

The pitching was excellent—Bob Claydon got the 5-0 shutout on a nifty six-hitter and Mike Shoup cruised in behind a 10-hit Oregon attack in the first game.

The Roberts boys, Dean and Dave, continued their torrid hitting, with Dave smacking his ninth homer of the year and chasing home six runs to set a new school record for RBIs in a season with 40. Dean committed three errors Saturday, but the way he's hitting, who's worrying?

The fledgling third baseman—and erstwhile outfielder—had three hits and four runs batted-in in the three games.

While Hardin had trouble for a time picking up his fourth straight Pac-8 triumph (he was locked in a 0-0 duel until the sixth Friday), Shoup had things easy.

Shoup hangs on

The Ducks lefthander was bopped around for 10 hits—but with Oregon wielding sizzle sticks on a cold, damp, Seattle day, it didn't matter.

It was 1-1 for awhile—until the second inning when the Ducks

exploded. Dean Roberts tripled and Shoup—who has an astronomical batting average for a pitcher—singled for two runs.

Then Dave Roberts singled home Shoup and Greg Brosterhous socked a two-run double to put it away.

Dave ended up with four hits in five trips in the opener, including a 450-foot shot in the sixth.

The second game was Duck soup with Claydon in top form. The senior from Costa Mesa, Cal., allowed just one Husky runner as far as second base in scattering Washington's six hits.

Ducks ready for WSU

Oregon got all the runs it needed in the first inning. Guy Krause and Brosterhous knocked in runs and two walks forced home Dean Roberts to set up Claydon with a 3-0 lead.

In surveying the damage done to the home-standing Huskies, Krause indicated the Ducks appear prepared for the Cougars' invasion—a series that will decide who gets the trip south to play USC.

"We're as ready as we'll ever be for a big series," he admitted.

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